

FORM B - BUILDING

Date (*month / year*): June 2018

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson
community preservation + planning

Organization: Town of Hanson Historical
Commission

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form
Number

107-0-2-0

Hanover

HNS.200

Town/City: Hanson

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 418 East Washington Street

Historic Name: Francis and Deborah Josselyn
House

Uses: Present: Single-Family Dwelling

Original: Single Family Dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1810; 1902

Source: White's History, Plan No. 5, Page 85

Style/Form: Greek Revival/Cape

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Concrete

Wall/Trim: Wood Clapboard, Wood

Shingle/Wood

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Wishing well to northeast of house and shed to the
southeast of the barn

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Dormers on
the north roof slope(possibly ca. 1900), connection
to the barn, replacement windows and doors

Condition: Good

Moved: no ☒ **yes** ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: .99 Acres

Setting: Located on one of Hanson's main
thoroughfares in an area of predominantly single-
family homes ranging from early eighteenth
century farmhouses to late twentieth century
suburban development on large lots which
includes grass lawns and numerous mature trees,
bushes, and other vegetation.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The one-and-a-half story Greek Revival/Cape style house has a long north façade which faces the street. The house has an addition on its south façade and a more recent connector linking the house to the large two-story, gable-end roofed barn to its left. All of the roofs on the house are asphalt shingled. The north, street facing, façades of the house and barn are painted and wood clapboard sided while the sides of both structures are finished in unpainted wood shingles. The house has twelve-over-twelve and nine-over-twelve double hung wood windows set into simple, unadorned wood frames with slightly projecting wood sills. The house has a narrow corbeled brick chimney located to the right of center of the gable roof ridge while the barn has a large metal chimney extending up from a former chimney on its west façade.

The north façade of the house has two uncharacteristically large hip roofed dormers centered around the front door. These dormers may have been added when the house was substantially renovated around 1902, but their current appearance is of a relatively recent additions to the house. Each dormer has a shallow hip roof which begins at the peak of the gable roof and extends out beyond the walls of the dormer in wide, flat board eaves. The north façade of each dormer is flush with the façade below and has a pair of large double hung windows at its center. Both the front and side facades of the dormers are wood clapboard sided to match the walls below. The eaves of the gable roof have similar wide, flat board eaves that extend down to just above the two double hung windows to either side of the entrance. The wood panel front door is protected by a divided light wood storm door and opens onto a wide semicircular brick landing with a curving brick step leading to the concrete front walkway.

On the east gable-end, the roof overhangs the façade with wide wood soffits, wood molding around the eaves and inner edge of the pediment, and short returns at each corner. The south slope of the gable roof changes pitch midway down its slope, extending out over a one-story addition in the southeast corner of the house. A side entrance at the center of the façade has an arched wood roof supported by narrow wood posts and the same wood storm door seen at the front of the house. The square brick landing and step lead to a short asphalt paved walkway to the driveway which runs to the east of the house and ends at the barn. A single double hung window is centered in the gable-end and a second window is located to the right of the door. At the southeast corner of the façade, a short connector with a gable roof extends diagonally from the house to the barn. The narrow breezeway also has an entrance leading to the driveway and a small patio area. On the west façade, the gable-end is similarly detailed but has symmetrical roof slopes. A single double hung window is located in the gable end and at each corner of the first floor. The addition to the south façade does not extend past the center of the house and is not visible from this façade.

The north façade of the barn is a tall gable-end with overhanging eaves that are trimmed with wood molding to match the gable-ends of the house. These eaves are slightly wider than the house, however, with longer and wider returns. The windows and door opening have a wide, peaked header with a projecting upper edge. A hay hook is centered in the gable-end over a single window. In the left corner of the first floor, the arched surround sits over a wide divided light transom. Two French style doors are located several clapboards below, suggesting

Continuation sheet 3

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that the original barn door opening was much larger and was filled in and replaced with these doors and their granite stoop. A second double hung windows with a narrower transom window above is located to the right of the entrance. The east façade of the barn has three more of these double hung windows with transoms above and two skylights are visible in the east roof slope. A large addition extends across the south façade of the barn, projecting out beyond the east façade. This addition has a long metal shed roof extending from the lower edge of the south gable-end and vertical wood board siding. A second entrance to the barn is located in a small gable roofed bumpout midway down the east façade. The west façade of the barn is largely obscured from the public way by the house.

A vegetable garden extends across the east half of the site to the left of the barn and driveway. The yard slopes down in this area, and the garden is surrounded by a low wood picket fence with a taller wood board fence and garden sheds in the southeast corner of the property. A wood board privacy fence extends from the southwest corner of the house and along the west property line, enclosing the yard to the south. In front of the patio area between the driveway and the east façade is a decorative wooden wishing well. Open grass lawn extends across the north half of the site with planting beds and evergreens planted around the foundation.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

This house was built for Francis Josselyn Jr. (1784-1841) when he married Deborah House (1782-1861) in 1810. This is supported by the 1830 Smith Plan which lists F. Josselyn as the owner and the 1856 Walling Map which shows Mrs. Josselyn as the owner of the home. The property was originally located next to the universalist church built in 1829 where Rev. Elmer Hewitt was installed as pastor. The church later became Unity Hall in 1866 and burned down in 1876.

The 1879 Walker Atlas shows S.L. Harris as the owner of the home. This is likely Hannah and Seth L Harris (1901-1847). Hannah House Harris (1810-1899) was the daughter of Deborah and Francis Josselyn. Hannah married Seth Harris, a mason, on January 4, 1847. The property may have transferred to them at this time. They had one daughter Eliza Harris (born September 1847) who married James Josselyn in 1922.

M. Stetson is listed as the owner on the 1903 Richards map. According to White's History of Hanson, this house was practically rebuilt in 1895 by Marshall Stetson(1856-1923), a sawfiler at a box factory. However, it is more likely that this occurred after 1902 when he bought the property from Eliza Harris.¹ Marshall married Mary Elizabeth Cudworth and had four children. They are listed as living at Washington Street on the 1910 census. The site is described in the deed as the site "...just westerly of "Unity Hall Site" formerly the Francis Josselyn place....surrounded by a stone wall."

The property changed hands several times until Ida M. and Arthur C. Thompson bought the property from Nellie A Orcutt in 1914.² Arthur(1860-1929) and Ida (1865-1944) operated a farm on the property and lived there for the rest of their lives. In 1945, the property passed to Margaret and George Hall.³ In 1958, Charlie and Muriel Barksdale bought it from the Weymouth Savings Bank after a foreclosure. The property then changed hands several times until 1977 when Charles and Eileen Casey purchased the property and lived for almost twenty

¹ Eliza inherited the property from her mother, Hannah Harris. Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 844, Page 107

² Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1182, Page 535

³ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1896, Page 525

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years.⁴ In 1994, Matthew Hawes bought the property.⁵ Mary Katherine Curran bought it from Matthew Hawes in 2004.⁶ The current owner, Kenneth Corrigan, purchased the property in 2013 from Bartley and Mary Curran.⁷

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⁴ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 4696, Page 124

⁵ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 13202, Page 87

⁶ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 29009, Page 327

⁷ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 43081, Page 139